

REPORT  
CD NO.

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SUMMARIES OF SPEECHES MADE AT  
CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE'S PARTY CONFERENCE

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.

Gemrot welcomed the CSL delegates, outstanding Czechoslovak industrial and agricultural workers, and representatives of the CDU to the conference. He stressed that the purpose of the conference was not only the appraisal of work already done, but the establishment of new goals for the building of socialism and further utilization of the valuable experience of the Soviet Union. He named as one of the party's most important tasks the establishment and development of JZDs (Jednotne Zemedelske Druzstvo, Unified Agricultural Cooperative) in the villages and the education of farmers in new methods of agriculture and animal husbandry.(1)

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Dr Josef Plojhar, President of CSL, and Minister of Health of Czechoslovakia

Dr Plojhar exhorted the Czechoslovak people to more intense efforts in the building of socialism, with the guidance and cooperation of the Soviet Union.(2)

Otto Nuschke, President of CDU, and Vice-President of the GDR

Nuschke stated that Czechoslovakia and East Germany are united to each other politically, socially, and culturally. They are not only friendly neighbors, he said, but partners in the great peace camp led by the Soviet Union. Capitalism and imperialism, masquerading as the strongholds of Christian Western civilization, threaten world peace. Christians must be persuaded that their interests are identical with the peace-loving Soviet-bloc nations.(2)

Emil Vojanec, Vice-President of the URO (Ustredni Rada Odboru, Central Trade Union Council), and National Assembly Deputy From Brno

Vojanec said that the Czechoslovak people must make more intense efforts to fulfill the Five-Year-Plan. They must further develop socialist competition, under the leadership of the ROH (Revolucne Odborove Hnuti, Revolutionary Trade Union Movement). They must raise production and at the same time use raw materials as economically as possible. He noted that the present conference should serve as a new inspiration for further efforts.(2)

Antonin Stehlik, Vicar of Prague, Metropolitan Canon of St Vitus Church

Stehlik stated that the CSL, with the aid of its Christian members, is helping to achieve true Christian justice in Czechoslovakia.(2)

Gerald Goetting, General Secretary of CDU

The principal goals of the CDU, according to Goetting, are the maintenance of peace, the unification of Germany, and the establishment of socialism. All German Christians look to the CDU to show them the way to socialism, which has the same goals as Christianity. The achievement of German unity, he said, is the task of all nations, not only Germany. The welfare of all Germany's neighbors must be considered in solving the German problem. Czechoslovakia and East Germany are united in their common desire to build socialism in their respective nations (2)

Antonin Pospisil, Minister of Transportation

Pospisil noted that the Czechoslovak people are immeasurably grateful to the Soviet Union for liberating them and offering them material help and the fruits of their own experience toward the development of Czechoslovak culture and economy.(2)

Andela Sukupova, National Assembly Deputy From Uherske Hradiste, Gottwaldov Kraj

Sukupova stated that it is a regrettable fact that, even after the destructive World War II, the world is not at peace. He said that war is a man-made phenomenon and can be traced to its specific perpetrators. It is necessary to fight for the preservation of peace. As Malenkov recently said, Sukupova stated, there is no world problem that cannot be solved by peaceful means.(2)

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Antonin Mares, President of the Prague Kraj Committee of CSL

Mares noted that many changes had occurred in the kraj during 1952. Help was given in establishing 75 JZDs, while the JZDs in 36 obecs were converted into cooperatives of the highest type, and 67½ percent of the agricultural members are now connected with the socialist sector. In the 1953 general assembly, he said, 34 CSL members were elected presidents of cooperatives and 243 were elected functionaries.

According to Mares, 60 percent of CSL members in Prague Kraj have had political schooling. Hundreds of production pledges were made by CSL members as a result of an intense pledge campaign.(2)

Josef Nemec, Vice-President of the Prague City Committee of CSL

Nemec stated that the city committee was established to meet the particular needs of political work in the capital city, as distinguished from the requirements of political work in country districts. The committee directs the party organizations in the city of Prague; the work of these organizations is closely knit with that of the national committees. He said that CSL workers in the national committees are directed by an advisory group which meets every week before the meeting of the UNV (Ustredni Narodni Vybor, Central National Committee) council. Under its supervision advisory groups meet in the individual Prague districts, always before the meetings of the UNV and ONV (Okresni Narodni Vybor, Okres National Committee) councils. All problems within the sphere of the national committees are handled at these meetings, he said.(2)

Jan Niederle, President, Brno Kraj Committee of CSL, and National Assembly Deputy

In working toward socialization of the villages, Niederle stated, special attention has been paid to party and government resolutions concerning the development and strengthening of the JZD. Localities where the small and middle farmers have not yet grasped the meaning of the cooperative system were given special attention, and lectures, films, and excursions have convinced many of them of the value of cooperatives. JZDs were established in 32 obecs; JZDs were converted to the highest type in 25 obecs; and in 27 obecs farmers were recruited for the HTUP (Hospodarsko-Technicka Uprave Pudy, Economic Technical Preparation of Soil).(2)

Rudolf Tesar, President of the Ceske Budejovice Kraj Committee of CSL

Tesar stated that, since most of the registered CSL members were farmers, work in the kraj was largely concentrated on the socialization of villages. In the second half of 1952, he said, 219 lectures were sponsored for farmers and 16 JZDs were converted to the highest type of economy. Fifteen members are JZD presidents and 86 others are functionaries. He stated that CSL workers have also helped speed production in factories and maintain discipline, and have worked in short-term brigades.(2)

Oldrich Svozil, President of the Ostrava Kraj Committee of CSL

According to Svozil, CSL members in the kraj have been active in JZDs and state farms; CSL members have aided in establishment of socialist competition and recruitment of shock workers and work brigades. They cooperate continually with the SCSP (Svez Ceskoslovensko-Sovetskeho Pratelstvi, Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship League) and have arranged lectures on Soviet life and also Russian-language courses.(2)

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Jaroslav Slava, President of the Usti Kraj Committee of CSL, and National Assembly Deputy From Teplice

Slava stated that socialization of villages has been the most important task of the Usti committee. CSL members have conducted lectures for farmers, aided them in political education, and encouraged the use of advanced methods of agriculture and animal husbandry. The members have done equally good work in industry and other sectors of the economy.(2)

Josef Zednik, President of the Olomouc Kraj Committee of CSL

In spite of considerable successes in establishing cooperatives, Zednik stated, the CSL could still (a) work harder with the JZDs; (b) recruit more farmers for large-scale socialist agricultural production; (c) give more help to the okres agricultural workers; and (d) implement socialist competition. In the industrial sector, he said, 29 members in 24 enterprises have been designated model workers. In political education, he noted, an effort should be made to select people for political schooling more carefully and then continue to train them and observe their progress after the specific courses are finished.(2)

Dr Jan Meloun, President of the Pardubice Kraj Committee of CSL

According to Meloun, much has been accomplished in changing Pardubice Kraj from a small-scale agricultural region to an engineering, chemical, and mining center. Many CSL members are shock workers and have participated in socialist competition and other helpful measures.

Meloun stated that a great deal has been accomplished in the JZDs, but much still remains to be done. More farmers must be recruited for the JZD, and the importance of the JZD must be thoroughly explained to them.(2)

Dr Antonin Prokes, President of the Hradec Kraj Committee of CSL, and National Assembly Deputy From Hradec Kralove

Since 37 percent of the party members in Hradec Kraj are farmers, the major task is teaching them the importance of socialization of agriculture, Prokes stated. In 1952 only 6.2 percent of the farmers were JZD members; in 1953 the percentage has risen to 62 percent. Success was partly due to vigorous handling of the village rich and the political schooling some farmers received in the Klinec School.

In 1952, when the first systematic attempt to organize party schooling was made, the CSL gave political training to 29 percent of its membership.

Prokes also stated that the CSL also made strides in cooperation with the Soviet Union by means of Russian-language courses, increases of membership in the SCSP, and Soviet literary exhibits.(2)

Antonin Fridrich, President of the Gottwaldov Kraj Committee of CSL, and National Assembly Deputy From Vracov

In connection with village socialization efforts in 1952, 459 lectures were given in the villages, Fridrich noted. An intense JZD membership drive resulted in adding 1,792 new members to the JZD, while 41 new JZDs were founded, and 47 JZDs were converted to the highest type. At the beginning of 1952, 8.2 percent of the CSL farmer members belonged to the JZD; by the end of 1952 the percentage had risen to over 50 percent.(2)

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Vaclav Myska, President of the Liberec Kraj Committee of CSL, and National Assembly Deputy From Liberec

In spite of a shortage of qualified party workers, Myska noted, JZD membership has increased from 19 percent of the farmer members to 87 percent.(2)

Dr Vladimir Kucera, President of the Jihlava Kraj Committee of CSL, and National Assembly Deputy From Jihlava

The CSL helped to establish 13 new JZDs and to convert six to the highest type during 1952, Kucera stated. In 1952 the party held 267 lectures for the farmers on socialization. CSL members have made outstanding achievements in work brigades and state farms.(2)

Dr Jaromir Berak, Docent, President of the Plzen Kraj Committee of CSL, and National Assembly Deputy From Plzen

Berak warned that the location of Plzen Kraj on the western border of Czechoslovakia and its occupation in 1945 by the American Army necessitate special caution in selection of members and general party activities and cause unusual difficulties. In spite of handicaps, he said, party activities, including recruitment of JZD members and participation of members in industry and in work brigades, have been successful. Party activity and fulfillment of the goals of the Popular Front have been good in Rokycany and Blovice okreses, very weak in Klatovy okres, and virtually non-existent in the Prestice, Domazlice and Horazdovice okreses. One of the main problems is the lack of sufficient functionaries to educate party members properly.(2)

Jiri Machacek, President of the Karlovy Vary Kraj Committee of CSL

According to Machacek, the most important task in the Kraj has been socialization of the villages. The CSL has enrolled new members in the JZDs, established new JZDs, conducted lectures and presented films to educate members.

He stated that, in industry, the CSL has implemented socialist competition. The number of women employed in industry is increasing constantly. Some of the mothers in Karlovy Vary and As, particularly, have proved to be able agitators who are successful in persuading other women of the necessity of working hard to support the socialist economy, emphasizing the benefits that mothers receive from the state.(2)

Jarolim Leichman, Vice-President of CSL, President of the Central Agricultural Commission of CSL, and National Assembly Deputy from Orechov, Brno Kraj

Leichman stated that the work of the cooperatives was reviewed at the first all-state JZD meeting, and new comprehensive regulations, based on the experience of both the Soviet kolkhozes and model JZDs, were drawn up. The party's main task is to see to it that these regulations become the primer for JZD activities, he said.

According to Leichman, two of the most important goals in JZD development are (a) the application of advanced technology to agriculture and animal husbandry; and (b) the achievement of political and technical education among the cooperative members, using Soviet experience as a guide.(1)

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Ferdinand Brodsky, President of the Central Health Commission of CSL

The All-State Health Conference, held in Velky Losenice in 1950, Brodsky stated, stressed the necessity for paying more attention to the health of factory workers. Up to this time, he said, factory medical care had been haphazard, largely because of lack of proper legislation. An important progressive step was the issuance of a decree by the Ministry of Health making enterprises responsible for furnishing medical facilities for employees. Every major enterprise now has its own health center.

Brodsky noted that the factory doctor has to keep track of every worker's health history and pay special attention to the most vulnerable workers, such as young people and pregnant women. He has to study the effect of working environment on the workers' health. He acquaints workers with methods of preserving their health by means of collective and individual interviews, and through the enterprise periodical and radio.

On the whole, Brodsky declared, there has been a considerable increase in health facilities and the total number of consultation hours since 1948.(1)

Oldrich Houba, President of the Central Political and Economic Commission of CSL, and Manager of Vitana, National Enterprise, in Mlada Boleslav

Houba declared that Czechoslovakia has made an excellent start in its economic development. Further development depends heavily on industrial production, he said. So far, great strides have been made, with the aid of socialist competition. According to Houba, agriculture is another vital sector of the economy; here progress has been largely due to the growing mechanization and electrification of agriculture.(1)

Dr D. Polansky, Vice-President of the National Assembly, and President of the Central Commission for Relations With the SCSF

Polansky stated that Czechoslovakia should develop her friendship with the Soviet Union still further. So far the CSL has not taken full advantage of the opportunities for learning from Soviet experience and has not shown sufficient interest in the Activities of the SCSF.

He said that the CSL has set up a special commission for relations with the SCSF. The commission acquaints CSL members with the activities of the SCSF, recruits SCSF members from CSL ranks, and sponsors Russian-language courses, presentations of Soviet films, and lectures on Soviet life.

So far, he said, CSL cooperation with the SCSF has been mainly on an individual basis; it should be developed into a mass party activity. More CSL members should be members of the SCSF, and the CSL should contribute trained cadres to work in the SCSF.(1)

Frantisek Ruzicka, President of the Rosice Okres Committee of CSL, and Winner of the Award "For Services in Construction of Socialism"

Ruzicka stated that socialist competition is the best basis for good work in the CSAD (Ceskoslovenska Statni Autobusova Doprava, Czechoslovak National Bus Transportation). Ruzicka, one of the best drivers with CSAD, stated that vehicles must be used with care and fuel, tires, and other materials and equipment must be used economically.(1)

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The work of the national committees must be closely linked with the mass of workers, according to Toman. Political work in the mass organizations must be improved, and the workers should be kept informed of the activities and purposes of the national committees. The more active participation of women should be encouraged.(1)

Josef Zaveta, Foreman in the Klement Gottwald Ironworks in Kuncice, and Winner of the Award "For Outstanding Work"

Zaveta stated that, before the Communist regime, he was employed only intermittently. However, he said, since the Communists, he has had steady employment. He stated that his first job under the new regime was with the Vitkovické Zelezárny Klementa Gottvalda (Klement Gottwald Vitkovice Ironworks), where he originated four plans for work improvement. In April 1951 he was sent to direct melting experiments at the Klement Gottwald Nove Hute (Klement Gottwald Iron Works) in Kuncice; here he originated a fifth plan for work improvement. On the whole, he said, his life has been immensely improved since the Soviet liberation.(1)

Voitech Hala, President of the JZD in Borsov

On the whole, the Borsov JZD has been very successful, according to Hala. It started out as the No 2 type and after the 1952 harvest was changed into the No 3 type. In its early days, he said, JZD members worked closely with the non-JZD members, with the result that more and more members were ultimately added to the JZD. Now all the farmers belong to the JZD. The SCSP and the STS (Statni Traktorova Stanice, State Tractor Station) of Kamenny Ujezd have been very helpful to the Borsov JZD. In 1952 the Borsov JZD fulfilled the state delivery plan 100 percent; so far, for the first quarter of 1953, it has fulfilled the state delivery plan 160 percent, Hala stated.(1)

SOURCES

1. Prague, Lidova Demokracie, 16 May 1953
2. Ibid., 17 May 1953

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